view to save loss of agricultural produce and its value to the cultivator?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) in 1995, Government of India constituted a Working Group on Post Harvest Management, Marketing and Exports. This Group estimated that post harvest losses in different crops ranges from 8% to 37%. These losses occur during different stages after harvest.

(b) For promotion of Food Processing Industries, under Plan Schemes of Ministry of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance is provided in the form of grant for setting up of new unit or for expansion/ modernisation of existing unit. Further, other schemes of the Ministry promote Food Processing Industries through infrastructure development, quality assurance, human resource development etc. Besides, other agencies like, NHB, APEDA, NCDC also provide assistance under their respective schemes.

Control on import of processed foods

3179. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose strict control on imports of processed foods in the country, by amending the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether cases of dumping processed foods by various countries in India have come to the notice of Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) A Draft Bill proposing certain amendments to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, was recently circulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to the State Governments, concerned Departments/ Ministries of the Central Government and other stakeholders for their

comments. Amongst the amendments proposed is an enabling provision for more rigorous control over imported food.

(c) to (e) Designated Authority appointed by the Government conducts anti-dumping investigations in India under Section 9, 9A and 9B of Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995. According to the Anti-Dumping Rules, the initiation of anti-dumping investigations is undertaken when the domestic industry files a fully documented petition to the designated authority with a *prima-facie* evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between the dumping of the imported goods and injury to the domestic industry. However, under rule 5 (4) of the Customs Tariff Rules of 1995, the designated authority may initiate investigation *suo-moto* if it is satisfied with the information received from the Collector of Customs appointed under the Customs Act, 1962 or from any other source that sufficient evidence exists regarding dumping of the foreign goods, material injury to the domestic industry and causal link between the two.

On the basis of a petition received from the Centre for International Trade in Agriculture and Agro-Based Industries (CITA), the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties initiated anti-dumping investigations on import of butter oil from New Zealand *vide* Notification dated 26.11.2002. Investigations in the case are under progress for issue of preliminary findings.

Non-implementation of food parks scheme

3180. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have threatened to withdraw funds allocated to States, for setting up and operating food parks, if there is no visible progress in the next six months;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not implementing the scheme by the States;

(c) whether Government are considering extension of this scheme to the Tenth Five Year Plan and an outlay of Rs. 250 crore has been set for this purpose; and